

Willard Richards [Nauvoo] to Jennetta Richards [Richmond, Massachusetts]
Letter 1

My Dearest Jennetta, I am sorry you did not understand the interpretation of your dream. the statement was you would be tempted, not that you would give way & wrong me or break your vow. No! and instead of my believing you guilty of any criminal act, I never had a jealous thought of you God knows. No. Never! & trust I never shall. my heart reposes full confidence in her I love as my life. —& ever has—I have never had a doubt. of her integrity. the interpretation was from God, as a warning to beware of Temptation therefore set your heart at rest about my fears of you.—I am sorry you should ever have had any feelings you have experienced about it. banish them.—there is no occasion. I believe you would rather die than do wrong in such a matter. but the devil is cunning. & all are liable to Temptation. Jesus not excepted and — The dream you mention in your last, is not good, neither is it from a good source. so you need not give yourself any uneasiness about. —My Sisters are not your enemies & I perceive by your letter you do not count them such. — I am glad to see your feelings are kind towards them. I am aware that you & they have not understood each others feelings, & movements, & wishes. I do — not believe there is any enmity between you. — You shall have your place, it is right. — you are right in wishing it. I can explain many things to you when I see you. — they have meant many things for good which have appeared strange & unreasonable. all things may yet [p. [1]]

be put to rights you spend an Eternity of bliss together.. You shall yet spend many good days on the Earth. — & rejoice together. not be bound together by force, but by love, — I would not wound one tender feelings of your soul on any account. I would be a Son of peace & consolation to your heaving bosom. I never had the remotest thought you ever wished or designed to exert an influence again[s]t me. & if I ever used the words it was in reference to p[r]inciple.— I desire I may now so write as to be understood & calm every feeling of your soul. & I never had any other design. Be at rest about all things till I see you & I will explain what I have not already. all is right. be comforted my Love. be comforted & make you[r]-self as happy as possible. I am glad you feel ready to receive God word from his servants or his spirit. You must let your heart swell out large for great things await this generation. Meditate on these glorious principles I have written you from time to time. — The priesthood is for the Sisters as well as for the brethren. — the blessings which await you are without bou[n]ds. if you continue faithful as I believe you will.— always remember God never instituted an order of things which would not tend to the happiness of his children. — if the sisters have erred do not cast them off. we must be patient with each other as we desire our father to be with us. & I believe you will be. — God bless my Jennetta comfort her heart. give her wisdom & strength & patience & endurance to the end amen. Willard R

IMAGE



ELITE

25% COTTON

ACID FREE

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poor, weary, & sorrowing. I never had the remotest thought you ever wished or designed
to exert an influence against me. & if I ever used the words it was in
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comfort her heart, give her wisdom & strength & patience & endurance to the end amen. William M.

Willard Richards [Nauvoo] to Jennetta Richards [Richmond, Massachusetts]
26 Feb. 1842

My Dearest Jennetta I know it pleases you to see a little scrap. & I love to please you and it would rejoice my soul to see you, & converse with you and I have no doubt it would yours also. & this privilege we shall yet enjoy & see and know that all things have been well.— and right before God in our separation Let us be patient and wait on the Lord — Jennetta, your faith has sometimes been weak as you have said. but I can truly say this work is of God. there is no mistake.. — acknowledge the hand of God in all things & you shall see the salvation of God & stand in his presence. there is more virtue in the priesthood than Even the Saints are aware of.— It is the power of God on earth as as sure as God lives if you will cling to me, and seek my happiness to the end I will bring you into the kingdom & your friends & mine. and what will you not be willing to suffer to accomplish this. all trials are nothing. There are many things recorded of the old patriarchs and prophets which have seemed bad to us. which if we knew the reasons thereof and the order of God would appear right. though they did some wrong things, no doubt. God has raised up Joseph to do a certain work, not so particularly to make him a perfect example, but do a certain work., & he never pretends to be a perfect man, but tells every body he is imperfect & they need not copy after him, & yet I never saw his equal, to do every thing right without pretensions. Joseph says he has been searching all his life time to find a man after his own heart, in all things, that he could trust with his business, & he has found him. who do you think it is? Dr Richards. will not this compensate for the loss of his company a little while my love? — [p. [1]] God bless my Jennetta & her boys Yea they shall be blessed, though one she sees not yet multitudes shall rejoice in their existence — Since I left Richmond I have thought much of Sister Rhoda. She has been a mother to me, and we always lay as it were, in each others bosoms. when I was there she appeared more distant, & for this reason I suppose from circumstances which had occurred in the family. she felt she could not make quite so free with me as she had done because you were there — ~~&~~ yet may this I do not wonder at, but. there is no occasion for any thing of the kind. for I know you would have no feelings about a sisters love though some would. — and I can assure you you can place the utmost confidence in her & Nancy also. they will never betray their friends. And I have no doubt — they will study your happiness & you theirs. I love my sisters as well as ever & my Jennetta better too, and if I had a thousand such dear friends I could love them all. Why because my heart is true, expansive as Eternity. — could I see you I could explain ma[n]y things I did not know when I left you. ==the grand secret of the Gospel is this. for us to live by every word of the lord. to live by revelation, present Revelation, do what God requires of us, & not what he required of somebody else. If you will do right in all things God will shew you ma[n]y things by his spirit. — Dreams visions &c. this I had written for my former letter.— but left it out for another scrap <about Dreams> not thinking I could send both. & I send it now because I have not time to write more. — Feb. 26.—



ELITE

25% COTTON

ACID FREE

IMAGE

My Dearest Fannetta I know it pleases you to see a little scrap, & I come
to please you and it would rejoice my soul to see you, & converse with you
and I have no doubt it would yours also, & this privilege we shall yet enjoy &
we and know that all things have been well, and next before God in our separation
Let us be patient and wait on the Lord - Fannetta, your faith has sometimes been
weak as you have said, but I can truly say this work is of God, there is no
mistake, acknowledge the Lord of God in all things, & you shall see the salvation
of God, & stand in his presence, there is more virtue in the priest hood than
open the saints are aware of, It is the power of God on earth, as as sure
as God lives if you will cling to me, and seek my happiness to the end
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without pretensions, Joseph says he has been searching all his life time to
find a man after his own heart, in all things, that he could trust with
his business, & he has found none, do you think it is? Dr Richards, will
not this compensate for the loss of his company a little while my love?

have been any female & for boys you they shall be female, though one or two are
not suitable for service in their existence — some of Capt. Richmond's
have thought much of going to Africa, she has been a mother to me, and we
strongly say as it were, in each other's breasts, when I see these old officers & men
dejected, & for this reason I suppose, from circumstances which had occurred in the
family, she had she could not make quite so free with me as she had done hitherto
you were there — ~~but~~ ^{now} she does not & order at, but, ~~there is no sentiment~~
for any thing of the kind, for I know you could have no feeling about
a distant love though some would, and I can assure you you can have
the utmost confidence in her & every else, they will never betray their
friends, ~~and~~ ^{never} have no doubt they will stick by you holding & you that,
I love my country as well as ever & my penitence better too, and if I had
a thousand such dear friends I could love them all, why because my heart
is true, expressive as eternity, could I see you I could assure you they
to live by every word of the kind, to die by resolution, first resolution, do what
good requires of me, & not what he requires of somebody else, if you will do right
in all things you will also you may think by his spirit — ~~brotherly~~
then I had written for my former letter — but I left it out for
another week, not thinking of sending another, & I don't know
how I have not said a word more. —

Feb. 25.

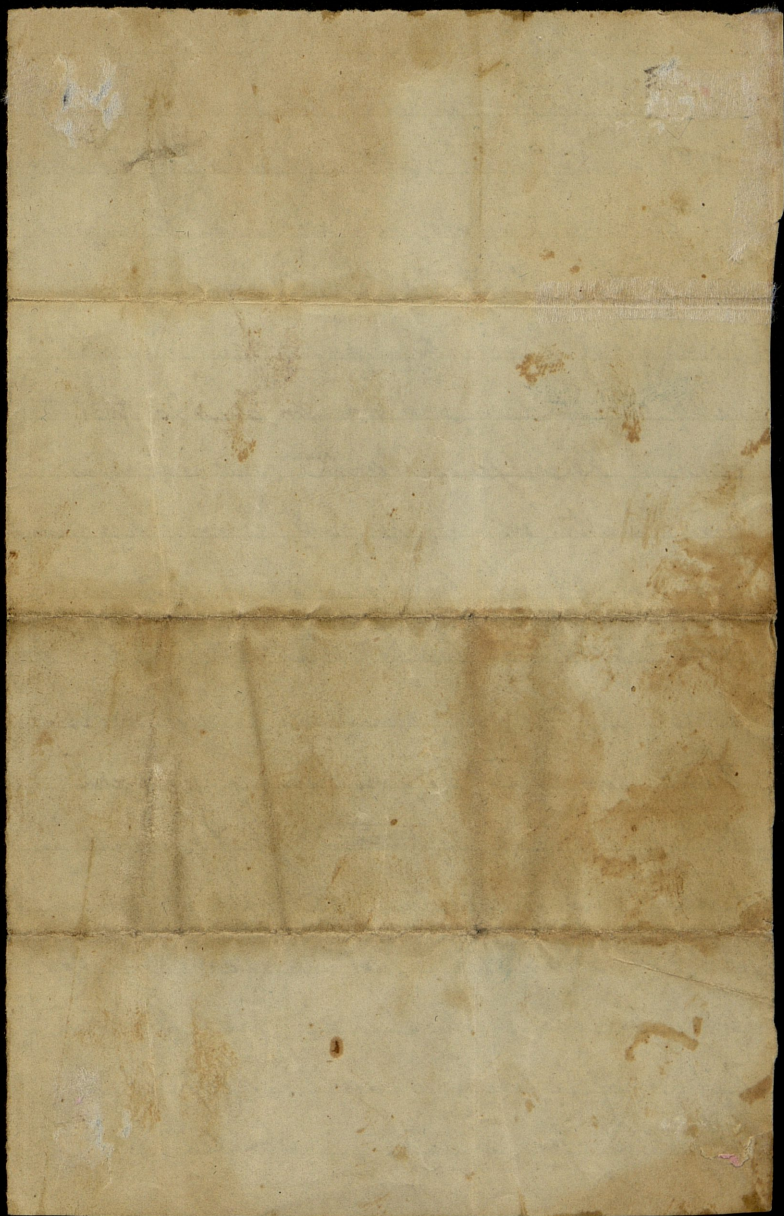
Saturday, P.M.

To

My ever dear Aunt, J. - I am
requested by Mother & Aunt R.
to write one line, as Samuel says he
will call and take it this eve and forward
it to you, we received news last evening
that the workmen are to commence one
week sooner than we first heard of, con-
-sequently we shall have them here sooner
than we expected when you were here &
when they come we shall be full. We
have got the house partly cleaned, & we should
all be happy to accomodate you and little John
here while Aunt J. is cleaning hers, we feel for

Dear Sister and Desire to all we can for your
comfort, yes indeed, be assured you are never forgotten
by your friends in this place. But it would be impos-
sible to receive you here just at the present time
for our beds are full. But we will take little Sam
in with us and do the best we can for him
while Aunt L is painting, perhaps you will
think you cannot spare him. But will you
just try to lay aside those feelings for a
few days and consider your health if you
should keep your chamber in retirement a
few days you might come out recruited &
rested some, now just think of it Aunt Ann
and let your judgment commend your feelings
this time, But just as you think best
we will do the best in our power for him.
Samuel is now waiting much love from a
Aunt Ann

Stant J. The ointment we send must be
put on the burn with a feather as cold as
it can be, perhaps you will have to warm
it a little. Stant B. would come if she
could but Levi and myself are going to
Pittsfield today ^{with the teeth} ~~and~~ she on chands that
cannot be dispensed with and she was
going with us if he had come a few minutes
later we should have been gone but we
have stoped to make this ointment
which we think would do as well as any
thing we could do for him if we were
there; it must be ~~rubbed~~ put on with a
feather and no clothes put over it when
it has dried in put on some more
but be careful and ~~not~~ not let him
get any in his mouth. keep it on
till the fire is out. Amelia.



..... Tax Receipt for Real Estate.

STATE OF ILLINOIS,
Hancock COUNTY.

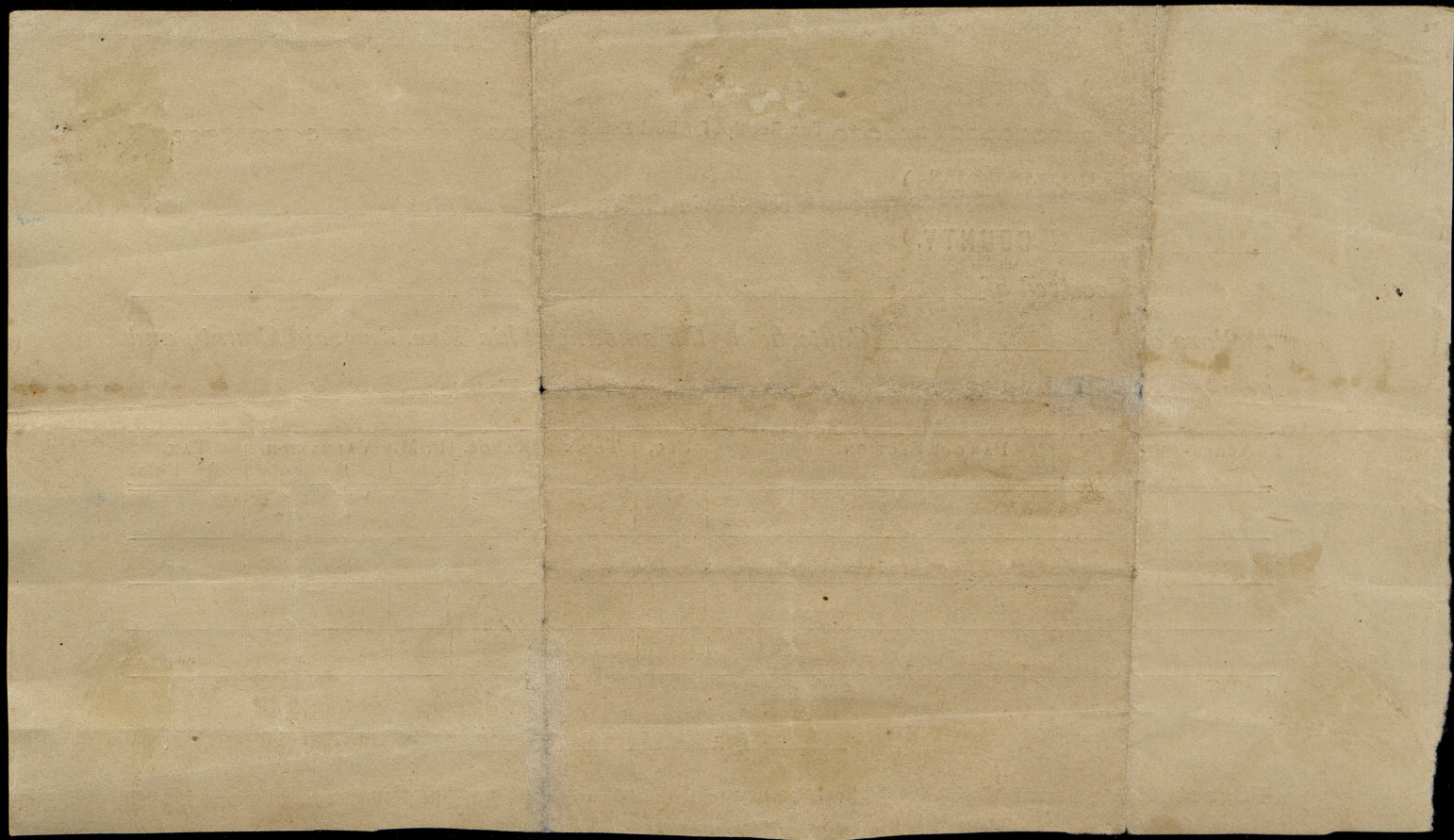
ss. Collector's Office, *Nov 9th* 184*4*

Received of *Willard Richards*

~~Dollars~~ and *57* Cents, being the amount of his Tax, due said County and State, for the year 184*9*, on the following described Real Estate. & *Personal property*

ACRES.	PART OF SECTION.	SEC.	TOWN.	RANGE.	P. M.	VALUATION.		TAX.	
						\$	cts.	\$	cts.
<i>Newwoo</i>	<i>Kimball's 2nd Addition</i>		<i>4</i>	<i>21</i>		<i>10</i>	<i>-</i>		
	<i>Chauvoe</i>		<i>2</i>	<i>103</i>		<i>50</i>	<i>-</i>		
	<i>Macedonia</i>		<i>2</i>	<i>17</i>		<i>10</i>	<i>-</i>		
	<i>Personal property</i>					<i>15</i>	<i>-</i>		<i>51</i>
						<i>85</i>			

M R Dunning Collector.
By J M Jones Spy



CITY OF NAUVOO,

February 18th A. D. 1845.Received of *Willard Richards* the sum of *Two* dollars and *5* cents—being the amount of tax due the said City for the year A. D. 184*4* in the *4* ward.

Personal property	value.	amt.
Description of land and town lot		
<i>Lot No 2 in Block N^o 103</i>	<i>4 00</i>	
	<i>4 10</i>	<i>2.15</i>

Jon^l A. Young

Collector.

7131. D.

bro. 21/1/18